Action Plan has already been evolved by the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare and is being operationalised. This has been endorsed by the Health and Family Welfare Ministers of States and Union Territories in January, 1992. The Action Plan highlights the need for evolving a national consensus in support of the Family Welfare Programme and to obtain the willing participation of all sections of the society. Its key features include improving the quality and outreach of family welfare services, *differential strategy for special focus on* 90 poor performing districts (Birth rate of 39 per thousand population and above as per the 1981 Census), developing a mechanism to make available funds to States/Union Territories on the basis of reduction of actual birth rate, increasing the coverage of younger age couples through vigorous promotion of spacing methods, introducing new contraceptive and improving the quality of contraceptives, strengthening family welfare schemes in Urban areas especially in slum pockets, revitalising training activities of medical/para-medical personnel with emphasis on motivational and counselling aspects, sustaining the good work done under Universal Immunisation Programme and strengthening of other interventions for Meternal and Child Health Care, reorientation of Information, Education and Communication efforts to focus on the quality of life issues and inter-personnel communication, involving voluntary and non-governmental organisations in a big way to promote active community participation in the programme, gearing up of the implementation machinery in the States/Union Territories and evolving high-level inter-sectoral coordination mechanism at the nation, State and District levels.

Allotment of land for regional occupational health centre

1310. SHRI PRABHAKAR B. KORE: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Indian Association of Occupational Health has requested the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Government of Karnataka and Directorate of Horticulture, State Government of Karnataka for allotment of suitable land of 5 acres in State Coconut farm, Whitefields to Regional Occupational Health Centre;

(b) if so, what is the decision and action taken by the State Government; and

(c) whether the response of the concerned State Government is negative and whether Indian Council of Medical Research would negotiate with other State Governments for the allotment of necessary land to construct laboratory facilities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI D. K. THARA DEVI SIDDHARTHA): (a) to (c) The Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) informed that the Indian Association of Occupational Health (IAOH), Karnataka chapter took up the matter with the Government of Karnataka. Although the ICMR has been informed that the proposal is under consideration of the State Government, their decision is awaited.

Upgradation of ROHC at Bangalore

1311. SHRI PRABHAKAR B. KORE: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Scientific Advisory Board and Governing body of the Indian Council of Medical Research had decided in 1988 to upgrade the Regional Occupational Health Centre at Bangalore as advanced centre for research in Agro-medicine during 1990-95; and

(b) if so, the progress made in the matter including the procurement of suitable land from the State Government of Karnataka?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI D. K. THARA DEVI SIDDHARTHA): (a) One of the recommendations of the